

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An information relay device connected between a plurality of logical or physical networks for performing an operation for relay of information between the networks is provided with a transmit/receive processing unit for receiving a general purpose multicast message from one of the plurality of networks and transmitting a multicast message to at least one of the plurality of networks, and a protocol conversion processing unit for converting, in the case where the general purpose multicast message received by the transmit/receive processing unit is a multicast protocol message of a certain level layer, the multicast protocol message of the certain level layer into a multicast protocol message of another level layer.